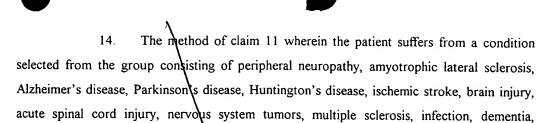
CLAIMS

WE CLAIM:

- 1. An isolated polynucleotide encoding a fibroblast growth factor polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) a polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO.4;
- (b) a polynucled tide that encodes a variant of the polypeptide encoded by (a);
- (c) a polynucleotide encoding a protein expressed by a polynucleotide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, and
- (d) a polynucleotide molecule that encodes a polypeptide that is at least 65% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.
- 2. The polynucleotide of claim 1 having the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.
- 3. An expression vector comprising a polynucleotide according to claim 1 operably linked to a transcriptional promoter and a transcriptional terminator.
- 4. A host cell comprising the vector of claim 3 wherein said host cell is a mammalian cell, a bacterial cell, a yeast cell, or an insect cell.
 - 5. An isolated polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) a polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO:4
 - (b) a variant of the protein (a) or (b); and
- (c) a polypeptide that is at least 65% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:5.

- 6. A method of producing an FGF 98 polypeptide, said method comprising:
- (a) culturing a host cell according to claim 4, wherein said cell expresses an FGF 98 polypeptide encoded by said vector; and
 - (b) recovering the FGF 98 polypeptide.
 - 7. The method of claim 6 wherein said cell is an insect cell.
- 8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the FGF 98 polypeptide of claim 5, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 9. An antibody that binds to the polypeptide of claim 5 wherein said antibody is selected from the group consisting of a polyclonal antibody, a monoclonal antibody, and a single chain antibody.
- 10. The antibody of claim 9 wherein said antibody is raised against an immunogen comprising the amino acid sequence KRYPKGOPELQKPFK (SEQ ID NO:6).
- 11. A method for providing trophic support for cells in a patient in need thereof, the method comprising administering to the patient a composition selected from the group consisting of a polynucleotide encoding an FGF 98 polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 5, and a polypeptide according to claim 5.
- 12. The method of claim 11 wherein said polynucleotide is administered by implanting cells which express said polynucleotide into the patient, wherein said cells express FGF 98 polypeptide in the patient.
- 13. The method of claim 12 wherein the implanted cells are encapsulated in a semipermeable membrane.



epilepsy, and peripheral nerve injury.

- 15. The method of claim 14 wherein the condition is Parkinson's disease.
- 16. The method of claim 14 wherein the condition is Alzheimer's disease.
- 17. The method of claim \(\frac{1}{4} \) wherein the condition is stroke.
- 18. The method of claim 14 Wherein the condition is brain injury.
- 19. The method of claim 14 wherein the condition is spinal cord injury.
- 20. A kit for detecting the presence of mRNA encoding FGF 98 in a sample from a patient, said kit comprising a polynucleotide having at least 20 contiguous nucleotides of the polynucleotide of claim 1, packaged in a container.
- The kit according to claim 20 wherein the polynucleotide encodes SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:5.
- 22. A kit for detecting the presence of FGF 98 polypeptide in a sample from a patient, said kit comprising an antibody according to claim 9, packaged in a container.

addA27